Leisure Information Service

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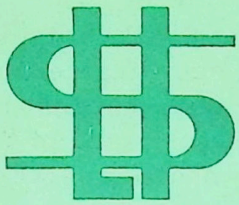

FUND DEVELOPMENT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

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93RD CONGRESS GEARS UP FOR BITTER BATTLE WITH EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The 93rd Congress convened on January 3, returning to much left-over business and a bitter struggle for power with the Executive branch.

The face of Congress is not vastly changed as the Democrats still control both houses. The Democrats strengthened their majority in the Senate by gaining two seats. Thirteen house seats were lost to the Republicans, but several of these were conservative Democrats who often voted with the Republicans. The only leadership changes will be in the House where Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill (D. Mass.) will replace the missing Rep. Hale Boggs (D. La.) as House Majority Leader. A replacement for O'Neill as majority whip will be chosen shortly.

The President, however, is in a completely different position than he was in 1968. No longer a President who squeezed in with a small majority, Mr. Nixon now can point to a clear mandate from the voters. But the fact that he cannot run again and claims from members of Congress that he was not as helpful as he could have been to Republican candidates in the last election may cost him Republican votes on the floors of the House and Senate. (CONTD.)

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POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT (CONTD.)

A struggle to regain Congressional control of spending will certainly take place in Congress. Mr. Nixon could not get Congress to pass a spending ceiling last session which would have empowered him to cut funds, but he is able to do just that by withholding funds appropriated by the legislature. Along these lines, a major issue of the coming months will be the appropriations for the Departments of Labor and Health, Education, and Welfare--twice vetoed by Mr. Nixon.

Attempts at Easing Tension - President Nixon is taking steps to ease the approaching conflict, says William E. Timmons, head of the President's Congressional Relations staff, in an interview in the Washington Post. One key action is the offer of informal consultations with groups of senators and representatives for "give-and-take" discussions with top level White House staff members. These powerful staffers have been a sore spot with members of Congress who charge that Mr. Nixon has centralized decision making in the hands of his staff who, unlike Cabinet officials, can refuse to testify before Congressional committees. Timmons said this was one of several conciliatory steps the White House was taking. Another important action is the upgrading of departmental legislative liaison jobs.

A few conciliatory notes have been sounded by members of Congress, such as Edward Kennedy who promised "a new grace and better spirit of cooperation" in dealings with the executive branch. But the stepped-up Vietnam bombing has only intensified the strained feeling, and a showdown on funds for combat in Southeast Asia as well as harsh words over the impoundment of appropriated funds look likely.

YOSEMITE INSTITUTE SEEKS TO ENLARGE ENVIRONMENTAL UNDERSTANDING

Yosemite National Park will serve as a "living classroom of endless variety" for a new educational institution called the Yosemite Institution. With headquarters in the Park in east-central California, the Institute brings together leaders from many fields in an attempt to broaden environmental understanding through education and communication. The Institute's Board of Directors includes business, professional, academic and government leaders, plus representatives of the National Park Service and Yosemite Park and Curry Co., the Park concessioner.

Activities since the Institute was organized in October 1971 have brought to the Park some 1,200 high school students for one-week environmental education programs. A series of three-day conferences began early in December to acquaint West Coast business and professional leaders with "today's environmental realities." Some of the other projects the Yosemite Institute plans include: providing pilot courses of environmental instruction and participation for student and adult groups; helping to develop a talent pool with environmental problem-solving capability to undertake assignments for government and industry; and offering Institute programs to national, state, and community parks throughout the world.

Initial funding of the Institute has been provided by a grant from the Yosemite Park and Curry Co., and by modest fees charged participating students.

** For more information, contact: Donald Rees, Executive Director, Yosemite Institute, Yosemite National Park, Yosemite, California 95389.

ARICULTURE MUST END TWO CONSERVATION PROGRAMS TO HOLD DOWN BUDGET

On orders from White House budget officials, the Department of Agriculture was forced to terminate two popular conservation programs.

A surprise target of the spending cutback is the 36-year-old Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP). The only major conservation program offering cost-sharing for conservation practices across the nation, the program had an approved 1973 budget of $225.5 million and already had $140 allocated to it by the Agriculture Department (L.I.S./FD&TAR 10/28).

Also eliminated was the year-old Water Bank Program which authorized the Secretary to contract with landowners to preserve the wetlands nature of their property. The Department had recently announced that the program had been expanded to include 62 counties in 15 states this year with an authorization of $10 million for new contracting (L.I.S./FD&TAR 11/25).

No "Serious Economic Consequences" - The ending of these two programs is part of the general crackdown on programs which "can be reduced or eliminated without serious economic consequences" to bring the budget within $250 billion. The Agriculture Department acknowledged that REAP "had been successful in demonstrating the value of conservation as a good farm practice." But net farm income will reach a record high of $19 million this year and the Department stated, "In view of this, and because of the general acceptance and profitability of certain (conservation) practices, it is believed farmers will continue to implement a significant number of them without supplemental income from the federal government." The Department also noted that the Interior Department runs a program similar to the Water Bank Program, making it unnecessary.

Loud protests are expected from Congress, long a backer of REAP.

PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT KEY GOAL OF NIXON ADMINISTRATION, PRESIDENTIAL REPORT STATES

"President Nixon made the environmental challenge one of the central concerns of his first term as President," states a report published by the White House on Mr. Nixon's first term in office.

"When the President took office, he found the Nation ill-prepared to deal with the rapidly developing environmental problems," states the report. "In swift succession the Administration created new federal environmental institutions, reordered domestic spending priorities and proposed sweeping legislative reforms and regulations to help improve the quality of life. The Administration's actions were designed to establish a proper balance between economic growth and environmental control and to utilize the Nation's vast technological resources to help cure major pollution problems," according to the paper.

"Legacy of Parks" a Highlight - The report entitled, "Richard Nixon's First Four Years: Change That Works," points to the "innovative 'Legacy of Parks Program'" as an important step forward. The program has conveyed more than 200 surplus federally-owned properties to state and local governments for parks and recreational use.

(CONTD.)

WHITE HOUSE REPORTS ON NIXON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTD.)

The report elaborates on many areas where the Nixon administration has effected change: Institution of a "New Economic Policy, designed to strike simultaneously at the problems of inflation, unemployment, unsatisfactory economic growth and unbalanced foreign trade"; Reorganization of the Executive branch to make it more responsive; An increase in the power of the states and localities through Federal Revenue Sharing; Support for the arts and humanities through increased appropriations to the National Endowment for the Arts and the Humanities plus Mr. Nixon's "personal commitment."

** There are a limited number of copies of the report available from the White House, Press Release Office, Washington, D. C. 20500.

U. S. TRAVEL SERVICE REORGANIZES

The United States Travel Service (USTS) of the Commerce Department announced a reorganization plan which includes reassignment of several top officials and creation of four new Washington units.

Supervising the agency's Washington operations will be Will Arey, former Executive Officer, named to the new position of Executive Director. Two new organizational units were established: the Office of Advertising and Promotion, to be headed by C. P. Austin, and the Office of Market Development, under the direction of Max Ollendorff. Both are from divisions of USTS which were eliminated.

Roger Jarmon, former Director of Marketing, will head the Canadian office, where an expanded VISIT USA program is planned. USTS's extensive host-nation program will now be under the directorship of Roger P. Biver in the renamed office of Visitor Services.

Another new office, the International Division, will coordinate and direct operations of the USTS foreign offices. No director has been named as yet. Aligned with its efforts to attract more business-related travel to the United States, the agency announced another change, concentrating all convention-development and "BUSIVISIT" efforts in a single new unit, the Office of Travel Trade, Business and Convention Travel, in Washington. The Director will be Richard Henry from the Paris-based International Conventions Office of USTS.

Washburn Returns - Another important announcement was made by Commerce Secretary Peterson's office. C. Langhorne Washburn has been named Acting Assistant Secretary for Tourism, after a seven-month absence from the department. He resigned as Assistant Secretary last May to work for the President's reelection campaign. He had been in the top tourism post since 1969. The "acting" status is in anticipation of his nomination by the President, expected within the next few weeks. James L. Hamilton III, who served as Acting Assistant Secretary during Mr. Washburn's absence, will continue in his position of Deputy Assistant Secretary.

All long-established USTS organizational units will assume enlarged responsibilities as USTS continues to intensify existing programs, Assistant Secretary Hamilton said. Strengthening of efforts, he said, was made possible by the $9 million allocation, a new high budgetary allotment for USTS, which Congress appropriated for the current fiscal year, in late October.

INTERIOR PUBLISHES TWO-VOLUME STUDY ON NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM PLAN

Interior's National Park Service has published a two-volume study designed to help complete the development of a National Park System "that truly represents the great historic and natural heritage of this land," according to Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton.

The study entitled "National Park System Plan" has two basic objectives: To define a System that is balanced and complete in its representation of both the historical and the natural, scenic and scientific heritage of the United States; and to identify the gaps that exist in this representation.

Part One of the publication, "History," divides the history of what is now the United States and its possessions into nine "themes" beginning with "The Original Inhabitants" and ending with "Society and Social Conscience." It then analyzes how well the 172 historical areas of the National Park System (as of April 1972) represent these themes, their sub-themes, and major facets or important aspects of the sub-themes. By the study's own definition, when all major facets of all sub-themes are represented by one or more parks, the National Park System may be regarded as well rounded. Each theme is rated by the percentage of major facets represented and these range from 12% of the major facets of the theme called "The Contemplative Society" to a high of 61% of the major facets from the theme of "European Exploration and Settlement."

Evaluation of Natural History Themes - Part Two, "Natural History," divides the country into 41 regions, which identify the geological foundations, and the plant and animal life typical of all periods in the history of continental and island development and the many types of environment and topography that exist today. It also evaluates how these themes are represented in approximately 100 areas within the System. An evaluation of the System is made by determining how adequately it represents the following: relatively homogeneous physiographic areas called NATURAL REGIONS; categories of natural phenomena called NATURAL HISTORY THEMES; and significant natural history themes within a natural region called REGIONAL THEMES.

The comprehensive study was undertaken because of a 1969 directive from the Interior Secretary to identify gaps within the System. Secretary Morton said the study "is not a formal program for the acquisition of specific natural and historical properties but rather an overview of our nation that will be invaluable in planning a National Park System that preserves and protects the best of our heritage forever."

** The two volumes of "The National Park System Plan" are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. Part One, "History," is $1.00, and Part Two, "Natural History," is $1.25.

NATIONAL GRADUATE UNIVERSITY PLANS NATURAL RESOURCES COLLEGE

The National Graduate University, a unique new university located in Washington, D. C. hopes to open a Natural Resources College during the next year. The college will offer masters and doctoral degrees as well as non-degree study in natural resources management and will provide the means for those in related fields to become knowledgeable about environmental needs and programs.

(CONTD.)

NATURAL RESOURCES COLLEGE PLANNED (CONTD.)

The graduate program will be divided into three phases: The General Phase, providing a sound base for future study; the Natural Resources Seminar, with student/faculty discussions and public sessions with recognized leaders in the field; and Specialized Study Phase, concentrating on the student's chosen career including practical experience and a dissertation. The actual study plans for students vary considerably within the curriculum.

The National Graduate University's President Walter Boek describes the curriculum as "a bold approach reflecting the belief that environmental, sociological, and economic factors must all be considered by competent resources managers and researchers."

The National Graduate University is a small, private, nonprofit educational institution incorporated in 1967. The University is presently offering masters and doctoral degrees in Human Service and Management, but intends to expand to several colleges, including a College of Developmental Planning, a College of Environmental Science, and a College of Humanities and Arts. The rigorous curriculum is designed to foster the understanding of basic principles while providing the student with the opportunity to gain practical experience. The goal is to train individuals to be adequately prepared for their professions soon after graduation, as well as to broaden the competencies of those already in their careers.

**For more information on the National Graduate University, write to them at 3408 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016. Information on the College of Natural Resources will be available during the Spring of this year.

PUBLIC SERVICE OCCUPATIONS CURRICULUM PROJECT

The California State Department of Education, Vocational Education Section, is endeavoring to develop secondary school curriculum guidelines for public service careers which can be applied nationally.

Begun in the fall of 1971, the Project has identified eight "major occupational groups" and 39 "major job families" and organized the curriculum guidelines around these. The first set of guidelines, which will orient students to public service, has a separate section for each major occupational group. A second set of guidelines utilizes a "common core" of information to provide students with elementary job skills. Both guidelines have outlines of subject matter content, teacher management activities, student learning activities, and appropriate instructional resources. Copies of the guidelines will be available through the Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 in the Spring.

The Project is funded through the Curriculum Center for Occupational and Adult Education of HEW's Office of Education. The Center makes project grants to colleges, universities, state and local boards, public or nonprofit institutions, and other organizations for high quality projects which are nationally applicable.

** For Project information: Dr. Pat Weagraff, Director, Public Service Occupations Curriculum Project, Program Planning Unit, Vocational Education Section, Calif. State Dept. of Ed., 1025 P St., Sacramento, Calif. 05814. The Curriculum Center is part of HEW, Room 5036, ROB-3, Washington, D.C. 20202. Due to limited staff, the Center requests only with definite curriculum and management ideas of national significance write.

TWO NEW STUDIES POINT UP FAILURES OF BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission (ARBC) is suffering from severe organizational problems, confusion over its role, and misuse of staff, contend two recently-released studies. Investigations by the General Accounting Office (GAO) and the House Judiciary Committee were ordered by Committee Chairman Emanuel Celler (D , N.Y.) in the wake of sharp criticism of the panel last summer (L.I.S. /FD&TAR 10/1).

The report completed by GAO, the investigating arm of Congress, had several complaints about the ARBC, but also claimed the group was off to "a good start." The adoption of program themes, help in starting state commissions, adoption of the Bicentennial symbol, and the production of commemorative stamps, coins and medals all are noteworthy, the report states. But internal management problems "hindered" the group from doing more.

House Committee Staff More Severe - The staff of the House Judiciary Committee was less complimentary in their report. "It is the central conclusion of the Committee staff that the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission has to date failed to 'plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate' a meaningful observance of the nation's 200th anniversary," the report states. In no uncertain terms, the report scores the various organizational problems which it feels must be alleviated if the ARBC is to coordinate a successful celebration.

The staff report touched on several problems which have made effective action impossible: (1) The structure of the Commission itself is unworkable: "A 50-member panel, meeting six times a year, and consisting of varied individuals from all over the country, inherently cannot exercise continuing administrative direction or implement program policy"; (2) Misguided vision by Commission leadership has resulted in an overemphasis on public relations: (3) Strained relations between the Commission and the staff impair staff morale; (4) Hiring privileges have been abused with "the improper use of consultants and . . through the inordinately high salaries paid to some staff members"; (5) Financial mismanagement has led to at least two violations of federal laws.

The committee report did commend many of the staff as being highly competent, but hindered by the problem of low morale. Although failing to generate tangible programs, the ARBC proved a successful leader in establishing State and territorial bicentennial commissions. The staff investigation, as did the GAO study, found no justification for the charges that ARBC was commercially exploiting the Bicentennial.

Legislation to Revamp Commission - Stating that FY 74 authorizations should be made only to a completely revised ARBC, the Committee staff proposed legislation to restructure the panel. They recommend that ARBC be cut down to 25 Presidential appointees, from which a nine-member Board of Directors will be chosen to carry out the Commission's duties and responsibilities. The Commission shall serve only in an advisory capacity with no authority to operate programs unless directed by Congress. An eight-member congressional committee will continually watch over the administration of the ARBC. The legislation also clearly defines lines of purpose and accountability for members of the staff.

It is now up to members of the House Judiciary Committee to review the proposed legislation for introduction on the House floor. In releasing the staff report, Committee Chairman Emanuel Celler said it did not necessarily reflect his views or those of any committee member.

MORTON WORKS TOWARD DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton told a December 22 news conference that he is eyeing changes within the department so that the Interior Department "can be absorbed into a Department of Natural Resources with the least amount of wrench and strain." The Secretary noted that he has been looking into ways of achieving a Department of Natural Resources by presidential reorganization, but he stated according to an Associated Press report, "The DNR, as it was proposed, is still where it was. There has been no effort to do this by executive reorganization."

Secretary Morton said action should begin once Roy Ash, author of the administration's plans for reorganization, takes his place as Director of Office of Management and Budget. Morton said then "early conversations with Congress" will be held to discuss the development of the DNR, the Associated Press reports.

Changes Within Interior - The Secretary said he is considering several changes within the Interior Department which will facilitate the creation of the new department. Among these would be changing the assistant secretary for mineral resources into an "Assistant Secretary for Energy and Technology" and bringing the various research programs within the department all under his authority, and separating Indian and territorial affairs from land management.

Morton is also working toward bringing more White House staffers to Interior, the AP notes. John Whitaker, a presidential advisor on environment and resources, recently came over as Under Secretary of Interior. There are several openings in the department as seven top officials resigned in the recent shake-up. Only the position of Park Service Director has been filled so far by Ron H. Walker.

STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF TWELVE-MONTH SCHOOL ON RECREATION

A study to determine the impact of the twelve-month school on recreation is being conducted as a cooperative project of the American Park and Recreation Society, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), and Commission on Education for Leisure of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (AAHPER).

The first phase of the study consisted of identifying the various communities around the country that have twelve-month school years. Then a questionnaire was formulated for both the education department and the park and recreation department to determine exactly what type of school calendar is followed and what effect the new schedule has had on recreation. The committee is in the process of reviewing the material sent to them by the various communities so the results of the study can be presented at the AAHPER Convention in Minneapolis in April 1973.

The study was first conceived at the NRPA Convention in Houston in the Fall of 1971. The committee is headed by George T. Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Schools of the Milwaukee Public School System, Division of Municipal Recreation and Adult Education.

** For more information write to George T. Wilson at the Milwaukee Public Schools, Administration Bldg, 5225 West Vilet St., P. O. Drawer 10k, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53201.

FOUNDATION CENTER BEGINS PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION QUARTERLY

The Foundation Center has begun publishing an Information Quarterly which provides the latest information on foundations, including changes in address, purpose and activities, names of officers, directors, or trustees, and financial data, including number and size of grants. Cross references to the basic entry in The Foundation Directory, Edition 4 are given. Most foundations with assets of $1,000,000 or more are included. Some 600 listings for most foundations with assets of at least $5,000,000 or more appear in the October 1972 issue. More than 2,000 will appear in the first four issues.

The publication also includes valuable information on how to use the resources of the Foundation Center, foundation annual reports on film, and relevant new publications.

The first issue has a lead article by Robert A. Mayer, Assistant to the Vice-President for Administration of the Ford Foundation. Mr. Mayer presents practical information on how to prepare yourself to ask for foundation grants and what the foundation staff member will look for in a proposal.

The Foundation Center has eight regional depositories around the country. Each has the Center's publications, microfilms of the most recently available information returns for foundations in the immediate state or region, and small reference collections. More extensive collections can be found in the national depositories in New York and Washington, D. C. A list of the regional reference collections follows:

Foundation Collection
Reference Department
University Research Library
University of California
Los Angeles, Calif. 90024

San Francisco Public Library
Business Branch
530 Kearny Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94108

Associated Foundation of Greater Boston
One Boston Place, Suite 948
Boston, Mass. 02108

The Danforth Foundation
222 South Central Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Foundation Library Collection
Atlanta Public Library
126 Carnegie Way, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Regional Foundation Library
The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
The University of Texas
Austin, Texas 78712

Cleveland Foundation Library
700 National City Bank Bldg
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

The Newberry Library
60 West Walton Street
Chicago, Illinois 60610

The two national depositories are located at the following addresses:

The Foundation Center
888 Seventh Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10019

The Foundation Center
1001 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

** A subscription to the Information Quarterly costs $7.50/year. Single copies are $2.50. Correspondence regarding subscriptions should be addressed to Columbia University Press, c/o F/R/D, 300 Blvd East, Weehawken, N. J. 07087.

GAO STUDY ON RECREATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

During fiscal 1971 and 1972 the General Accounting Office (GAO) made a thorough review of outdoor recreation programs administered by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Report to Congress which resulted found that the federal grants were not providing enough recreational opportunities to the inner cities, where there is a tremendous and ever-increasing need. The report, published in October 1972, makes various recommendations to the Secretaries of the Interior and HUD as well as to the Congress. The report is available for $1.00 to the general public, or free of charge to government officials, college libraries, faculty members, students, or members of Congress and their staff. Order "Greater Benefits to More People Possible by Better Uses of Federal Outdoor Recreation Grants" from GAO, Room 6417, 441 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20548. Checks should accompany order.

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A group which will keep track of the environmental activities of this year's session of the U.N. General Assembly has been formed. The Environmental Information Committee plans to watch especially closely the actions taken on the recommendations made by the U.N. Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm last June. For information, contact Ross Vincent, EIC, 345 46th St., 11th Floor, New York, NY 10017.

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A new government study presents practical suggestions on reducing the country's tremendous need for energy. "The Potential for Energy Conservation" describes ways in which the projected national energy requirements could be cut by as much as 7.3 million barrels of crude oil a day in 1980. The report costs $2 from the Supt. of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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The National Safety Council has prepared a new program entitled "All About Bikes" which is designed to provide safe bicycle handling instructions for elementary school children. The program, which can be presented at a community center, school, etc., was developed to help reduce bicycle accidents which last year killed 550 bicyclists aged 5 to 14. "All About Bikes" was pre-tested by 80 elementary school teachers in 30 school districts before being put in final form by the National Safety Council, a nonprofit, public service organization. For a brochure explaining the program, write National Safety Council, 425 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has published a pamphlet designed to help civic, service, trade, health and conservation organizations to participate in Mission 5000. Mission 5000 is a cooperative project of local, state, and federal governments and private organizations to close 5000 of the nation's open dumps. "Mission 5000 -- A Citizen's Solid Waste Management Project" is available from the Public Inquiries Branch, EPA Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20460.